

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A digital video recorder connectable to a set-top box configured to receive electronic program guide information and broadcast audiovisual data, the set-top box including at least one auxiliary interface that supports communication between the digital video recorder and the set-top box, the digital video recorder comprising:

at least one recorder interface connectable to the auxiliary interface;

a storage device; and

an electronic program guide subsystem connected to the recorder interface to receive the electronic program guide information from the set-top box and to process the electronic program guide information to schedule recording the broadcast audiovisual data on the storage device.

2. The digital video recorder of Claim 1, wherein the electronic program guide subsystem comprises an electronic program guide processor.

3. The digital video recorder of Claim 2, wherein the electronic program guide subsystem further comprises an electronic program guide manager.

4. The digital video recorder of Claim 1, wherein the electronic program guide subsystem further comprises an electronic program guide storage buffer to store the electronic program guide information.

5. The digital video recorder of Claim 1, wherein the electronic program guide subsystem is configured to present processed electronic program guide information to a user.

6. The digital video recorder of Claim 1, wherein the digital video recorder receives the electronic program guide information and the broadcast audiovisual data from a single source.

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1 18. The digital video recorder of Claim 1, wherein the at least one recorder
2 interface supports synchronous communication.

Sub A2

19. An electronic program guide processing device connectable to a set-top box configured to receive electronic program guide information, the set-top box including at least one auxiliary interface that supports communication between the electronic program guide processing device and the set-top box, the electronic program guide processing device comprising:
- at least one device interface connectable to the auxiliary interface; and
 - an electronic program guide subsystem connected to the device interface to receive and process the electronic program guide information from the set-top box.

20. The electronic program guide processing device of Claim 19, wherein the electronic program guide processing device comprises a digital video recorder.

Sub A3

21. The electronic program guide processing device of Claim 19, wherein the electronic program guide processing device comprises a user viewing monitor that keeps track of and compiles a user viewing history and set of user preferences.

1 22. A method for communicating electronic program guide information from
2 a set-top box configured to receive the electronic program guide information to a digital
3 video recorder comprising an electronic program guide subsystem, the method
4 comprising:

5 connecting at least one recorder interface of the digital video recorder to
6 at least one auxiliary interface of the set-top box, the recorder interface
7 connected to the electronic program guide subsystem;

8 recognizing the connection of the digital video recorder to the set-top
9 box; and

10 communicating the electronic program guide information from the set-
11 top box to the electronic program guide subsystem.

1 23. The method of Claim 22, wherein the electronic program guide
2 information and broadcast audiovisual data are transmitted to the set-top box from a
3 single source.

1 24. The method of Claim 23, wherein the electronic program guide
2 information and the broadcast audiovisual data are received by an input interface of the
3 set-top box.

1 25. The method of Claim 23, wherein the electronic program guide
2 information is included in the broadcast audiovisual data.

1 26. The method of Claim 22, wherein the electronic program guide
2 subsystem receives updated electronic program guide information from the set-top box,
3 where the set-top box is configured to detect updated electronic program guide
4 information.

1 30. The method of Claim 22, wherein the method further comprises storing
2 the electronic program guide information in an electronic program guide storage buffer
3 of the electronic program guide subsystem.